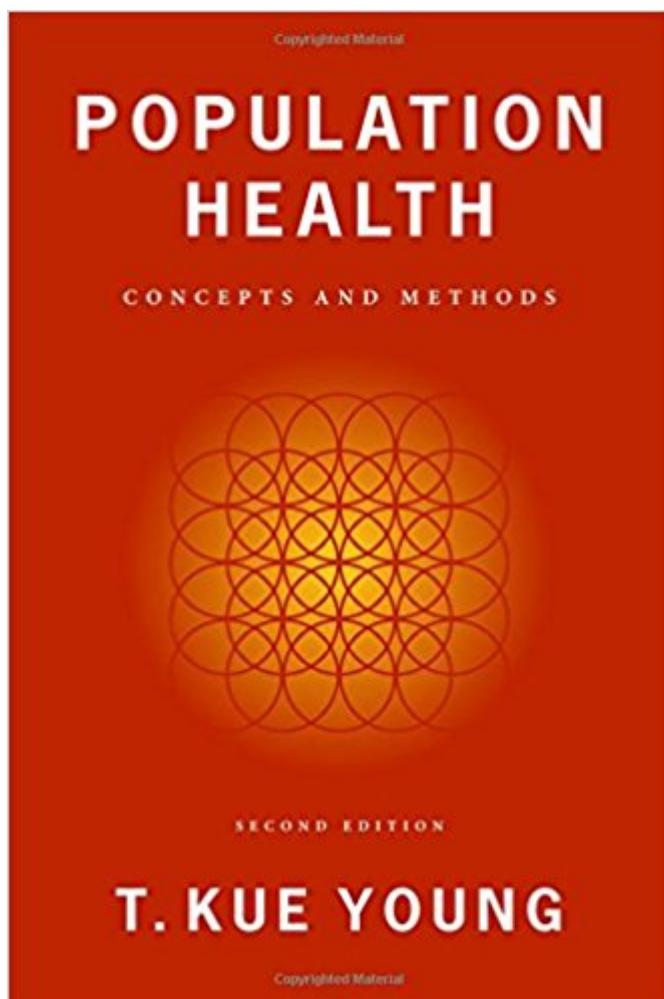


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Population Health: Concepts And Methods



Synopsis

Population health encompasses traditional public health and preventive medicine but emphasizes the full range of health determinants affecting the entire population rather than only ill or high-risk individuals. The population health approach integrates the social and biological, the quantitative and qualitative, recognizing the importance of social and cultural factors in practice and research. This text is organized around the logical sequence of studying and attempting to improve the health of populations; measuring health status and disease burden, identifying and modeling health determinants, assessing health risks and inferring causation, designing research studies, planning interventions, and evaluating health programs. The second edition incorporates many new topics that reflect changes in contemporary public health concerns and our response to them; as well as shifts in research directions. These include lifecourse approaches to health, gene-environment interactions, emergent infections, and bioterrorism. Among the specific changes are new or expanded discussions of confidence intervals for commonly used rates, the impact of population aging on mortality trends, health survey questionnaires, summary measures of population health, the new International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health, migrant studies, race and ethnicity, psychoneuroendocrine pathways, social epidemiology, risk perception, communicating the SARS epidemic, ecologic studies, the odds ratio, participatory research, suicide, evidence-based community interventions, evaluation methods and health economics, the Cochrane Collaboration, and systemic reviews. The many positive features of the first edition have been retained, such as the extensive use of boxes, case studies, and exercises; the selection of examples representing a variety of health problems, geographic regions, and historical periods; and a multidisciplinary orientation bridging the quantitative and qualitative, the social and biomedical sciences. The book aims to spark a new kind of broad-based training for researchers and practitioners of population health.

Book Information

Hardcover: 403 pages

Publisher: Oxford University Press; 2 edition (September 23, 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0195158547

ISBN-13: 978-0195158540

Product Dimensions: 9.3 x 1.1 x 6.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds ([View shipping rates and policies](#))

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #241,636 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #44 in Books > Medical Books > Dentistry > Preventive #201 in Books > Textbooks > Medicine & Health Sciences > Research > Epidemiology #213 in Books > Medical Books > Medicine > Internal Medicine > Infectious Disease > Communicable Diseases

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T. Kue Young is a Professor of Public Health at the University of Toronto.

This is a very well organized and clearly written interesting book. It is very coherent and fluently read and suits an introductory level course for students and professionals focusing on epidemiology, medical research and public health. Every chapter includes several interesting case studies and exercises, assisting in learning. A significant portion of the literature cited, is unfortunately old .

This is a high-quality textbook for undergraduate and graduate students in public health and health sciences fields. It should be one of the main references for any health researcher or practitioner as well.

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